

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1-29. (Canceled).

30. (Currently Amended) A method for ~~computerized processing of invoices, which a company has presented to two or more customers,~~ the method being performed by a computer and comprising:

selecting, from a plurality of invoices, by the computer, such a first set of invoices which are due within a ~~reselectable~~ preselectable a specified time period or on a preselectable date and [[the]] which have a balance of which is larger than a preselectable first threshold value;

selecting, by the computer, from the first set of invoices, a second set of invoices for which a full payment of the respective balance has not been received;

assigning, by the computer, a first state to invoices in the second set of ~~said selected~~ invoices; and

using the first state to control processing of the invoices.

31. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 30, further comprising:

selecting, from ~~said the~~ plurality of invoices, ~~one or more~~ a third set of invoices; and

assigning a second state to ~~said selected~~ the third set of invoices.

32. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~[[30]]~~ 31, comprising ~~representing-~~  
storing at least one of ~~said the~~ first state and the second state ~~[[by]]~~ as an entry  
into a ~~respective data field~~ fields of a data ~~record-records~~, the data records  
comprising data of the ~~respective~~ third set of invoices ~~invoice~~.
33. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 31, comprising:  
~~representing-storing~~ at least one of ~~said the~~ first and the second state  
[[by]] as a first and second set of characters entered into one data  
field of a data record comprising data of the respective third set of  
invoices ~~invoice~~.
34. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 30, wherein one or more of the  
plurality of invoices are invoices of special importance.
35. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 31, wherein said first state and  
second ~~states represent~~ state are states of high priority.
36. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 30, further comprising:  
selecting, from said plurality of invoices, ~~second-a~~ fourth set of invoices,  
~~the balance of which is~~ having balances smaller than a  
~~preselectable-second~~ threshold value and larger than a  
~~preselectable-third~~ threshold value; and

assigning a third state to the ~~second~~ the fourth set of invoices, the second threshold value being smaller than or equal to the first threshold value and the third threshold value being smaller than the second threshold value.

37. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 36, wherein the third state is a state of medium priority.
38. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 36, further comprising:  
selecting, from said plurality of invoices, ~~third~~ a fifth set of invoices, ~~the balance of which is~~ having balances smaller than the third threshold value; and  
assigning a fourth state to the ~~third~~ fifth set of invoices.
39. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 38, wherein the fourth state is a state of low priority.
40. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 30, wherein the ~~preselectable~~ first threshold value is selected such that a ~~preselectable~~ total balances of the first set of invoices is equal to a specified percentage of the outstanding active debts ~~or turnover of the~~ a company that issues the invoices is controlled.

41. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 38, further comprising presenting the invoices ~~of having~~ at least one of the first state, the second state, the third state, and the fourth state to a cash collector.
42. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 41, further comprising presenting the invoices having at least one of the first state or the second state to the cash collector at the ~~latest expiration~~ of a ~~presetable~~ first period of time before the due dates of the presented invoices ~~date to the cash collector~~.
43. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 41, further comprising presenting the invoices having the third state to the cash collector at the ~~latest expiration~~ of a ~~presetable~~ second period of time before the due dates of the presented invoices ~~date to the cash collector~~.
44. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 38, further comprising presenting the invoices having the fourth state to the cash collector at the ~~latest expiration~~ of a ~~presetable~~ third period of time before the due dates of the presented invoices ~~date to the cash collector~~.
45. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 41, further comprising:  
controlling determining, by said cash collector, whether payments  
according to the invoices ~~of having~~ at least one of the first state and  
the second state have been made before, on, or after the due  
date[[,]]; and,

in case of a non-payment, presenting the non-payment invoices to a  
collecting service.

46. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 44, wherein the second period of time is smaller than the first period of time and the third period of time is smaller than the second period of time.
47. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 38, further comprising dunning the customers of associated with the accompanying due the fifth set of invoices.
48. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 45, ~~wherein the collection service is a~~ comprising presenting the non-payment invoices to one of a collection division of ~~[[the]]~~ a company that issues the invoices or an external collecting agency.
49. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 45, further comprising:  
checking whether a non-payment is reasoned~~[[,]]~~; and  
in case ~~[[no]]~~ the non-payment is not reasoned, presenting such  
non-payment invoice to an external collecting agency.
50. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 45, further comprising presenting the non-payment invoices to the collecting service as a to-do-list.
51. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 30, further comprising:

receiving a request for a state change of ~~[[an]]~~ a specified invoice from a customer; and  
changing ~~the~~ a state of the specified invoice according to said request.

52. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 51, further comprising presenting the request to an internal clearing division before changing the state.
53. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 30, wherein the method is implemented as part of software for supporting business processes, the software comprising enterprise resource planning software.
54. (Currently Amended) A computer system for ~~computerized processing~~ ~~[[of]]~~ invoices, comprising:
- a memory having program instructions;
  - an input ~~means~~ device for receiving and entering data;
  - ~~output means for sending and presenting data;~~
  - a display device for displaying content;
  - a storage ~~means~~ component for storing data; and
  - a processor ~~responsive to~~ configured to execute the program instructions to; ~~wherein the program instructions, when executed with a processor, perform a method comprising:~~
  - ~~selecting~~ select, from a plurality of invoices, ~~such a first set of~~
  - invoices which are due within ~~ap~~ ~~reselectable~~ ~~preselectable~~
  - a specified time period ~~or on a preselectable date~~ and the

which have a balance of which is larger than a preselectable  
first threshold value;

select, from the first set of invoices, a second set of invoices for  
which a full payment of the respective balance has not been  
received;

assigning assign a first state to invoices in the second set of said  
selected invoices; and

using use the first state to control processing of the invoices.

55. (Previously Presented) A non-transitory computer-readable storage computer-  
readable medium storing a computer program which, when executed by a  
processor, causes processor to perform a method comprising instructions for  
computerized processing of invoices, which a company has presented to two or  
more customers, the computer readable medium comprising instructions for the  
method comprising:

selecting, from a plurality of invoices, such a first set of invoices which are  
due within ap-reselectable preselectable a specified time period or  
on a preselectable date and the which have a balance of which is  
larger than a preselectable first threshold value;

selecting, from the first set of invoices, a second set of invoices for which  
a full payment of the respective balance has not been received;

assigning a first state to invoices in the second set of said selected  
invoices; and

using the first state to control processing of the invoices.